

1615, 15 Sep 78

## TALKING POINTS ON SOVIET/CUBAN OPTIONS

## I. More foreigners?

(Rhodesian Map)

A. [ ] 25X1

1. 10,000 Cubans/Ethiopians to Mozambique
2. "No intention at this time"

B. Contingency planning?

## II. It is:

- A. Conceivable - several thousand Cubans in Mozambique. Not for invasion
  - B. Likely - more Soviets/Cubans into Mozambique/Zambia
  - C. Almost certain - general increase in Soviet/Cuban activity
- Force size depends on circumstances. 2-10 thousand are enough.  
Smaller numbers = Smaller shock
- Higher figure - feed in gradually. Fewer political/logistical problems

## III. Pressures/Risks

(Rhodesian Graphic) A. FLS don't like foreign involvement

1. Want African victory
2. Fewer Soviets/Cubans the better
3. Sudden increase - South Africa joins Rhodesia

B. Time may change FLS attitudes

C. Nkomo - needs early settlement

1. Long campaign - military restive
2. Can't save forces & stay effective
3. Kaunda taking heat

D. Mugabe - most fighting

1. Needs more protection
2. Reduce time for Nkomo/Smith talks
3. After Smith - needs better trained forces - ZANU training in Ethiopia

1. Can't defend against Rhodesians
2. Nyerere/Neto - want to move on other matters
- F. Soviets/Cubans may accept risks
  1. To increase presence. Better footing
  2. Believe on winning side
  3. Make situation more favorable to Soviets
  4. Can project military power
  5. Incentive. Pull Cubans from Ethiopia. No go home
- G. Biggest risk - South African intervention
  1. Rhodesians have only:
    - 12,000 troops, 6,000 mobilizable
    - No armor
    - 36 MIG-17 equivalent aircraft
  2. But South Africans:
    - 45,000 troops, 250,000 mobilizable
    - 200 + tanks
    - 200 jets
    - 3 SS, 3 DE, other minor combatants

IV. If sent, mission is...

- A. Most likely - show-the-flag
  1. Diplomatic weight against Smith
  2. Deter Rhodesia
- B. Probably - defend against Rhodesians
- C. Possibly - train/advise guerrillas
- D. Least likely - Invade now. Later, maybe.  
Invasion logistics

(Air Routes Map)

(LOC's Map)

1. Soviets can do their part
2. LOC's comparable to Angola/Ethiopia-adequate
3. Mechanized suitability?

SECRET

25X1A

a. Border crossings limited

(Zambia-Rhodesia Border Map) (1) Zambia - 3 points

(Mozambique-Rhodesia Border Map) (2) Mozambique - mountains & jungle

(Rhodesia Movement Map) b. Rhodesia - suitable

(Rhodesia-South Africa Border Map) c. South African access - suitable

V. Seriously doubt large force intent on invasion - now. Later?

-Expect sustained increase in Soviet/Cuban presence

-Assessments may change as situation unfolds.

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